DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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July 13, 2006

Gene K. Fong Division Administrator Federal Highway Administration 650 Capitol Mall, Suite 4-100 Sacramento, CA 95814

Attention: Ms. Sue Kiser

Dear Ms. Kiser:

With this letter, and pursuant to the authority delegated to me, I approve the following amendment of the Tulare County Association of Governments' (TCAG) 2004/05 - 2006/07 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP):

No. Description

23 Local Element

• Modifies the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Program project by changing the location of a Tulare County shoulder stabilization project. See Enclosure.

I am also recommending that the Federal Highway Administration approve this FTIP Amendment No. 23 for inclusion into California's 2004/05 - 2006/07 Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP). Projects included in this FTIP, in fiscal years beyond the three-year cycle of the current FSTIP, are not approved as part of this FTIP amendment and are for information only.

The updated programming has been found by TCAG to conform to applicable air quality regulations, and satisfy the requirements of 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 93.118 and 93.119 without a new regional emissions analysis in accordance with the provisions of 40 CFR 93.122(e)(2)(ii). The project has been included in the regional emissions analysis of the Regional Transportation Plan at the time of the conformity determination.

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Therefore, this FTIP amendment is consistent with the State Implementation Plan. The financial impacts of this amendment are compatible with anticipated revenues in the FSTIP Financial Plan and do not significantly affect the overall financial analysis. Please note that the approval of this amendment does not constitute eligibility determination for the project from this amendment that is funded from the CMAQ Program.

In accordance with existing law, public involvement procedures are a part of the project selection process. TCAG prepared this FTIP amendment under that process permitting citizens, affected local agencies, other public agencies, and other interested parties reasonable opportunity for comment.

Please address any questions on this FSTIP approval request to Penny Gray, of my staff, at (916) 654-3521.

Sincerely,

ROSS A. CHITTENDEN

Chief

Division of Transportation Programming

Enclosures

c: Karina O'Connor - EPA Office of Air Planning (w/enclosure)
Lisa Hanf- EPA Office of Air Planning (w/enclosure)
Ted Smalley, Deputy Executive Director, TCAG
Dennis Mills, TCAG
Rachel Falsetti - Caltrans
Penny Gray - Caltrans